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E A R L of B-----E,
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Scotch Politics defeated in AMERICA.

Accompanied with several interesting Anecdotes,
and a Hint of the late intended ministerial
change.

Infandum caput! Hic vir! hic est!

VIRG.

A Man whose Inclinations led him to be corrupt; and
said to have *great Abilities*, to manage and multiply,
and defend his corruptions.

SWIFT.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the Author; and sold by J. WILLIAMS,
next the *Mitre Tavern*, in *Fleet-Street*. 1766.

[Price One Shilling.]

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Scotch Politics defeated in America.

Accompanied with every interesting Anecdote
and a Hint of the late intended ministerial
change.

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Virg.

A Man whose Inclinations led him to be corrupt; and
led to have even Whigs, to manage and multiply,
and defend his corruptions.

SWIFT.

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Printed for the Author, and sold by J. Williams,
near the Temple, in Fleet Street, 1760.
[Price One Shilling.]



A D D R E S S

TO THE

P U B L I C.

Dissimulation having tainted that fountain, which ought to flow the most pure of all, by the foul introduction of an ill-chosen *steward*, born, in the general sense, to some inglorious catastrophe, in chastisement for having hitherto proved so highly prejudicial to the interest of his mistaken employer; it is now no longer time for temperance or moderation towards such a prevailing pestilence; therefore every well-wisher to king and country are called upon to display all his latent machinations to the public's eye, in the most glaring colours, and to bolt him from his most hidden recesses: nay, were he audaciously to seek for refuge under the throne; thence to drag to light the screaming bird of darkness,—that through the continued insolence of arbitrary rangership, hath debased the patrician trees of the forest, down to as low and pliant uses as ever plebeian under-wood hath been devoted, in the most abandoned times.

No.

Nothing, forsooth, is to wear any stamp of merit, but as he may be pleased to impress; and whatever he thinks proper to scowl upon, is to be avoided as criminal. Nay, he hath even assumed a popish purgatorial power of cleansing from sins, and regenerating to virtue and honour the condemned to lasting shame, and for a most unpardonable purpose; that of commanding a garbled army, to consist chiefly of his compatriot spoilers, to make inroads upon our brother foresters in another hemisphere, and devast their virtuous settlements, because the now adopted residence of liberty, and future azylum of her persecuted votaries in Europe.

But how inadequate the intended chieftain was to so infernal an enterprize, which is treason even in thought, will be evinced unallegorically, upon historical, certain and unvarnished facts in the annexed pamphlet, bearing the usual title given by the favourite to his minion; at the very name or idea of which capital offender the nobly indignant words of PERCY occur.

*Why look you, I am whipt and scourg'd with rods,
Nettled and stung with piss-mires, when I hear
Of this vile politician,----B----e.*

SHAKESPEARE.

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M A N

O F

A B I L I T I E S.

AS it happeneth in empires, so it often is the fate of distinguished families, that, when having attained to their utmost period of glory or fame, they cannot extend the limits of either; but by a fatality, interwoven with all human affairs, gradually degenerate. Instances, in point of empire, are to be found in most historians, and therefore shall not be an object of enquiry here; because the subject chosen

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confines

confines to a special investigation of *one*, in whom the lustre of a long line of honourable ancestry is, in the general sense of our nation, totally eclipsed.

The noble house's decline most certainly commenced in the person of our impleaded delinquent's father, as in the grandfire (their greatest glory) united shone the hero, the poet, as well as the judicious and munificent patron of true, not falsely pretended, merit, in others. His collected courage and true spirit of heroism, at the approaching hour of danger, appear in the celebrated song, written at the eve of a sea-fight;

To all ye ladies now at land, &c.

The illustrious personage's being a poet of the first rank, and, at the same time, a foremost ornament in the muses' train, his own productions truly Parnassian, demonstrate, beyond the reach of doubt. As a proof of his having been the judicious and munificent patron of *true merit* in others, let PRIOR's name, that happy lyric poet, the well-beloved of Apollo, and to be ever revered by all men of taste, suffice. Struck with
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the splendour of so transcendent a character, and in compliment to so praise-worthy a race of mortals as down to him the the S-----les had proved themselves, Mr. Pope threw out his tributary mite of praise.

Heroes and poets still adorn the line.

But alas ! in the celebrated earl all such pretensions to an extraordinary fame expired.

LIONEL, the son, fell infinitely short of such a Sire, being equally devoid of all exertive energies, either of mind or body. He grew up, from his younger years, to the full meaning of the expression, a compleat court-sycophant. A plausible, or rather happy, exteriour was the deceitful covering of as false and cozening a heart as ever skulked within a human breast. With little parts, some address, and much dissimulation, he contrived, by the dint of those petty artifices, appendaged to low cunning, to be ever well with the ministry, whatever were the dispositions of the time, whether fluctuating, or, as often, quite contradictory, even in one day. Such political variations did not in the least embarrass the ready, versatile, and state-cameleon. He was, on all

occasions, immediately tinged with, and wore a complexional colour, suited to the temporary measures; by which subtle finesse alone, and no plea of solid worth, did he long flourish in the royal favour; and for a considerable series of years enjoyed a rotatory succession of the first and most lucrative places under the crown; the whole by far exceeding what had been conferred on any subject in a like number of years, which induced the late ingenious and learned earl of Granville thus to reply to a nobleman, speaking contemptuously of the hackneyed, placeman duke, as to his mental abilities: " You may look upon D----t
 " as a fool, and call him blockhead, if you please,
 " my lord; but, for my part, I consider him as
 " the most sensible and political of us peers;
 " for he manages so well, in regard to self, as to
 " be always employed in some high office."
 That first created duke of his family, who was, when at court, all smiles, bows, courtesy, nay, of most obliging demeanor, and moreover, an unlimited dealer in promises, which he rarely meant to observe, or even deigned to remember, after he had made them: when returned to his country Villa was very hard, as well as most uncertain to be dealt with; and to give the last trait of his character, he was deliberately oppressive

five

five, whenever an opportunity presented itself; which to his ungracious mind was a not displeasing occurrence.

One of the many state employments which D----- had filled was that of the lord lieutenant of Ireland. On his first going to that kingdom he was much liked, on account of his smooth outside, and taking behaviour, with those among the people, whose unpenetrating eyes can be delighted with looking on a shallow stream, that dimples its surface in a pleasing manner, and so displays its want of depth. The vice-roy, in order to ingratiate himself and family more and more with the too easily duped Irish, had his darling son G-----e entered of their university, and educated there.

G-----e, instead of conceiving any regard for the country of his education, nursed in his dark bosom a rankling malice towards it, which he has often owned to intimates; and sometimes declared it unaccountable even to himself.

The papa-duke's first course of vice-royalty in Ireland, which had been continued six years, through special favour, being over, and likewise
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the course of his son's education completed, the hopeful young nobleman repaired to England; and made it his choice for life of being employed in the army; because, by virtue of his family-interest, and the sovereign's countenance, there was no rank of military promotion (supposing him endowed with the proper requisites) to which he might not, in due time, look up at and attain.

But as, from his boyish days, G-----e had ever been doubted of by several of his school-fellows in the article of courage, other interested persons in order to pay their court to the father, and to palliate, in some manner, such a surmised deficiency, cried him up for a good scholar; as one possessed of a great genius, and that promised to blaze out in time, A MAN OF ABILITIES!

Now, whether this fallen warrior may any more be entitled to a characteristic pre-eminence for mental than corporeal vigour, will appear from the recital of the following facts.

The general assertion made in behalf of his courage rests upon his having been at the battle of Fontenoy.----- Well,--- what then? his duty, as a subaltern officer, made him obey command,

nor

nor could he have done otherwise, as wave behind impels the wave before, else public infamy must have ensued: besides, it has been declared by those who were not far from him, on the tremendous onset, that, were it not for an officer, named *Bragge Fitzgerald*, if we remember right, an Irish gentleman, who was near to, and kept up his courage, by all means imaginable, on such a trying occasion, his lordship (who, if he pleases, can tell what passed between them) would then have anticipated the disgrace of *Minden*; but with far less detriment to his king and country. How hath his friend on that decisive day been rewarded by him? it is asserted, most ungratefully.

The next article of any military note which we heard of him, was, his having been sent with his regiment against the rebels. He was not reported to have been in any imminent danger during that expedition, and the only disaster which happened to him was the loss of his baggage; with this comfortable reflection, to sooth him for such a loss, that it must have fallen into the hands of a people against whom he had harboured no rooted antipathy, but rather a growing partiality in their behalf; and Cuninghame, with whom he

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accidentally got acquainted there, is a very glaring instance.

The rebellion being crushed, and an end being put to a foreign war, the young lord G-----e returned to enjoy peace and London, where he was looked upon as a kind of favourite at court, and the most rising minion of fortune. He was much taken notice of, and a general regard paid to him in his military station, as to one who might probably figure one day at the head of the army. Such flattering circumstances gave him opportunities of displaying his innate haughtiness of temper, and supercilious arrogance to officers as well as tyrannic dispositions over the poor soldiery; nor ought to be forgotten his illiberal fondness of straining after sarcastic wit, in which attempts however, he proved abortive; for his lordship never appeared at college in a more brilliant light than that of a laborious plodder, and a mere sulky proficient.

After an interval of some years, the ever place-devouring duke of D-----t solicited and obtained his being nominated by the king a second time to the lord lieutenancy of Ireland. His son G-----e being grown up in years and avarice, he appointed

ed his first secretary, a derogatory station for the son of a most high and puissant prince of England; but this step sufficiently denoted the covetous monopoly intended by both; such dispositions in that department, no matter by whom put in practice, should ever be eyed with contempt, as the pseudo-political work of miserly, narrow, and groveling minds; the retailers but not representatives of majesty. Lord G-----e, as the vulgar saying is, will never be damned for having intruded himself into a place below one of so high birth, and his then almost regal filiation, on account of the many disagreeable consequences, as by facts to follow will appear.

Lord G-----e was scarce arrived in Dublin, with his father, when he immediately displayed, in the double capacity of vice-roy's son and secretary, more the airs of an absolute prince, even to despotism, than what the young man really ought. Prerogative was to be stretched; the hereditary freedom of the subject curtailed. In short, every thing was to be done as chimed in with his turbulent fancy. The too implicit father had resigned the sole steerage of the state-vessel to his son's pilotage, which drove them upon those shoals and

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and rocks that in fine politically shipwrecked both, in that kingdom.

Nevil Jones, esq; surveyor-general of Ireland (the merit or demerit of whose case we concern not ourselves with here) was then under a parliamentary enquiry, relative to the repairing of the several barracks throughout that realm, and for which he had received the allotted, a considerable sum of money. This enquiry was in started consequence of many complaints from the officers quartered in different parts.

The complained of surveyor lord G-----e was pleased to take under his gracious protection, and conjointly with STONE, *his* primate of Ireland, to declare himself at the head of a party in opposition to that of the then speaker of the house of commons, since created earl of Shanon.

Such petulant intermeddling, of a lord lieutenant's secretary, provoked, from the opposite party, the publication of a clever and witty pamphlet, called the *History of ROGER*, under which title the speaker was allegorically delineated. Therein were also pourtrayed in a sensible and humorous manner, the genuine features of both parties

parties. The secretary, lord G-----, although so long before the *Minden*-first of August, was then antedated, typified, and pre-nominated *ancient Pistol*! wonderful! What foresight, what intuitive discovery was that pamphlet fraught with! The presaging author must have smoked the horse officer, notwithstanding the affected terror in his looks, and tremendous blustering of his boots.

The ingenious little history of *Roger* having produced, on the speaker's side, the desired effect; so on the other side, his secretaryship and party being exposed to the laugh of the public, their defeat was the consequence for that session. But they, however, did not give up their game for entirely lost; because, buoyed up with hopes of success, in the ensuing, when the lord lieutenant, their abettor, should (as he promised he would) return from England with a reinforcement of royal promises and menaces, to support their cause; into which unconstitutional engagement he was seduced by his son: an egregious proof of his being *a man of Abilities*.

The wished-for time of the parliament's meeting at length come, and *Jones's* affair, he in the interval had got himself elected a member of the

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house,

house, still pending; that was chiefly made the point of party-contest, to scrutinize the force of court and country interests, for the further pursuit of projects big with danger to Ireland.

Matters were carried on with great warmth on both sides. The horse-officer and secretary lord pluming himself on his father's countenance, threw aside all reserve and decency (considering his precarious situation) even to the first nobles of the land. Such misconduct drew upon him a storm of obloquy and abuse, all which he philosophically swallowed, or artfully sneered away, but for which a man of warmer feelings would have thought it incumbent on him to demand personal satisfaction.

It being foreign from our purpose to enter into any detail about the parliamentary proceedings of that session, in Dublin, the reader shall here be presented only with an account of the secretary's closing that polemical campaign, and the manner in which he departed from Ireland.

Mr. Jones, who, had not lord Blunderbuss G——e undertaken his cause, might have met with milder treatment; was voted guilty of the
facts

facts alledged against him, and expelled the house in consequence.

The secretary's unnatural straining after the pathetic, had more than once, during that process, afforded ample occasion of laughter to the house; it being, as often as attempted by him, turned into ridicule by some other member. His lordship's style and manner were very easily taken off. In argument he was ever weak, though often insolent. His diction was both puerile and turgid. His oratorical faculties, such as they are, will ever tend more to overthrow than support any cause, which he shall undertake.

So far for the unavailing flimsiness of orator *Would be*: but to the flagrant shame of the officer be it recorded, that a challenge was insinuated to him from an Irish peer, of the first rank, the earl of K-----e, and to this purpose: "Your
 " arrogance in this kingdom is so overbearing and
 " intolerable, and your disrespect of the peerage
 " so deserving of chastisement, that, notwithstanding your present low and adopted menial rank, of lord lieutenant's secretary, yet I
 " will condescend to give you an opportunity of
 " proving yourself a man; and removing, which
 " I in-

"I invite you to do, and should be glad of, the
 " the too generally received notion here of your
 " being a coward."

What was the secretary militant's answer to this
 challenge?--- why,--- why--- although in the very
 depth of winter, he sneaked off from Dublin,
 and at midnight, in the common packet, for
 Holy Head.--- *Abiit, excessit, evasit, erupit; nemine
 honesto salutato, Angliam navigavit.*

The humorous cry of the mob, for some days
 after, through every street, was,--- "at past twelve
 " o'clock, and a cold, frosty morning, lord G---e
 " unattended, stole away from the castle of Dub-
 " lin, for Old England.--- O my good lord of K---e,
 " why did you make him do so?" There were
 no puzzling or contradictory orders on this occa-
 sion.

As Nevil Jones, had been disgraced through the
 means of lord G---e's sanction, so, from an unhappy
 attachment to his inauspicious system, was the
 theatre-royal pulled down, and its mock tyrant,
 Sheridan, like the real one of Sicily, obliged to
 make his escape, and earn a livelihood in another
 king-

kingdom, by becoming an itinerant pedagogue; and teaching young and *old infants* to read.

The late primate, *Stone*, was quite sunk in character by his connection with the run-away militant secretary; and *Cunningham*, their chosen *aide de camp*, had acquired but little fame, or if any, such as was not very desirable. So, to sum up all; disgrace, ruin, and baseness, were the attendants of lord G-----'s political management in Ireland; where he deserted and left quaking his aged parents, an helpless *Baucis* and *Philemon*, to the mercy of an incensed people; and thus effectually proved himself the greatest enemy his father could have had; because, through the son-secretary's misconduct, he was debarred from going a third time, as he had done in his former vice-gerency.

The people of Ireland behaved very civil to the duke during a three months sojourning there for the fair weather, after his son's wintry midnight elopement.

When lord G-----e found himself landed in England with whole bones, and a sound skin, his every thought was bent on the means how he might wreak his vengeance upon Ireland; but
find-

finding that not a very practicable matter, *de se*, he betook himself to make them ridiculous in private companies, and in whatever public manner he could with impunity.

One odd scheme, indeed, he hit upon, (tho' others assert strenuously, 'twas through a liking of the man's style) and of a very extraordinary nature, which was the naming a tradesman, (who, having failed in London, had for some years taken refuge in Ireland, as a retainer about one of the play-houses, either in quality of joint property-man, or assistant prompter) to be poet-laureat of that kingdom, with a yearly stipend of fifty pounds; notwithstanding there were several young poetical geniuses in his lordship's *alma mater*, the university of Dublin, much fitter for such an appointment than the very unqualified object he pitched upon; which, from a near inspection we had of it at lord G-----e's trial, appeared quite unadapted for those fanciful cabrioles and capering of the mind, required by the flighty irregularities of a lyric muse; now high, now low; now long, now short. On the contrary, the thing is of a sedate, grave, sober aspect, and seemingly habituated to the *Batavian order of thinking*; according to which all ideas and their representative parts

parts of speech are methodically ranged, *stratum supra stratum*; whence the countenance derives an air of being inanely speculative, or gloomily profound. It was highly entertaining to hear such an one call itself *Bard*, and the so much younger lord G-----e, *my patron*. How lucky the so protected in having such a *protector*!

On the Being's first nomination a general enquiry was made, at which of the universities it had been bred; but no such name had ever been entered in their books; nor could any more satisfactory account be got of it in any of the great schools in England or Ireland.

However, some of the old servants of the London theatres remembering the name and occupation it followed in queen Anne's reign, that discovery suggested to one of the wicked wits who ply about Covent-Garden, a subject for the following lines:

*Rhimers of Grub-street, here's matter to stare at,
An old barber's block's the Irish knob Laureat!
When erst 'twould scrawl plays, and eke growl as
play'r:*

*RICH, indignant, took snuff; and psbaw'd:--Horse-
hair.*

D

A droll

A droll, apposite and sarcastic sneer, from a manager to a *perruquier* candidate, either as a *playwright*, or a *playman*. Now, whether it be from this object of lord G-----'s patronage, (which, as appeareth, may be the cause of wit in others) or from lord G-----'s own patron, lord B---te, the late *bon mot* of the streets, *that's the barber*, drew its origin, is a point that cannot be easily determined.

Having taken a cursory review of the secretary lord's transactions in Ireland, (omitting only those of his nocturnal and *primate*-deviations, which we assign over to the Scandalous Chronicle, looking upon such charges to be, in general, the offspring of party-resentment) let us take a survey of his conduct in England; and whether, as he had most eminently disserved and unhinged his father's interest in the realm of his vice-royalty, he hath not acquitted himself as inadequately, when employed by the sovereign, either in England or elsewhere; and thereby established a just foundation for this enquiry. Why has he been stiled A MAN OF ABILITIES?

When deputy master of the ordnance, under his grace the late duke of Marlborough, he made
minute,

minute, and very mean researches into the smallest perquisites and little *douceurs* of place allowed to those of the most moderate appointments; such as a certain allowance to pay for their being carried from London to Woolwich, and reciprocally, &c. which several, especially the young and the robust, were wont to save for themselves and families, by *walking*, or going thither in passage-boats, &c. a laudable piece of *economy*.

But this prying state-harpy, like to the poetical, aimed at assailing all modes of sustenance, and befouling every department into which he could obtrude his baneful influence. For, while wallowing in ease and plenty himself, he deprived poor under-agents of what they had been allowed even in times when all the necessaries of life were not half so highly taxed.

From being a despoiler of those in under-employments, the next attempt to prove himself *a man of abilities*, was, to become an *informant*, and to direct an accusation against an officer of high rank.

After the unhappy miscarriage of *Bynge* in the Mediterranean, upon which his lordship is

said to have been very pert, an alarm was immediately spread that the French designed to invade Gibraltar, which place was reported not to be in a state of defence, through the shameful neglect of the late governors; whereupon lord Tyrawley, in whom his Majesty king George the Second reposed the greatest confidence, both as a statesman and a general, was dispatched, to examine the situation of the garrison, and to put all to rights for a vigorous resistance, in case of an attack.

The royal orders were no sooner given than the veteran brave, and youthfully expeditious, departed, to see them duly executed. The accounts of lord Tyrawley, upon his return, for all necessary disbursements, were in a private and cowardly manner, impleaded as exorbitant, and a proper subject for parliamentary notice---by whom? by the ingenuous lord G-----e. When preparations for such a proceeding were made, the better instructed deputy-master of the ordnance spared no pains to have it quashed: but the nicer sentimental feeling of lord Tyrawley counteracted the *informer's* machinations, and had his accounts, relative to the putting Gibraltar in a proper condition, submitted to the enquiry of the house of commons, which honourable body complimented his

his every measure, on so interesting a conjuncture, with the highest, and justly deserved sense of their approbation.

The *clandestinely* accused nobleman and gallant commander, of unimpeachable demeanor, in every employment, however high, (and to all he had done honour) did express himself openly in such a manner of the defeated informer, as, if there were a solitary spark of irritable honour concealed in any part of his phlegmatic and frigid composition, it must have kindled, blazed forth, and fired him on to manly resentment.—But soft and fair, if you please, (some may reply) it is an easy matter for people unconcerned to talk of fighting. They do not consider that even a hero slain, either in battle or in duel, is but the *counterfeit* of a man, and what mortal of primitive christian forbearing would desire to be in such a predicament?

But when a man has made up his mind, as the trite expression in favour of an informer imports; “ what need he care for, or trouble himself about “ public opinion?” True; chiefly on infamous occasions. Yet lord G-----e could not absolutely rest his head on such a common bolster, without feeling some thorny prickles of remorse, in that
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general crisis of affairs; and having besides discovered that insinuations glancing at his deficiency of courage daily gained ground, he thought it necessary to seek an occasion of putting a stop to the growing prejudicial report; and in consequence suggested to the late duke of Marlborough to solicit for the chief command of invasive expeditions on the French coast, and that he should be proud to go second in command to his grace: which was accordingly obtained. While the duke rendered himself conspicuous in the eyes of the French, as much by *daily acts* of magnanimity as by the most humane and beneficent proceeding on every occasion, for which they poured blessings on his name: the prudent lord G-----e, *sui compos*, having an entire regard for self and safety, became solely remarkable in the opinion of friends and foes, by the *nightly acts* of lying on board the fleet, which retreating measure was variously accounted for. A few surmized it was in order to try, if like to his illustrious ancestor, as each succeeding day might be productive of a fight on shore, he could write a ballad at sea on the preceding night, to shew how clear and disembarassed his head was from all depression of fear.

It was by others attributed to the delicacy of lord G-----e's ears, that could by no means bear the dissonant crowing of French cocks, the rude barking of their dogs, of the St. Maloes breed; the unharmonious cackling of their geese; and to sum up all the harsh and untuneable grunting of their swine.

Others, more initiated in the art of war, declare this caution to have been a refined stroke of generalship; because, were the commander in chief to be surprized in the night-time and made prisoner on shore, with the troops under him, the second in command, by sleeping on board, would be out of the reach of such peril, and consequently could give orders for the fleet's safety and speedy return home, which would be something; as preventative of the entire loss of our land and sea forces employed on that expedition. Many other reasons were assigned; but of less weight: and therefore not worthy of recital.

Lord G-----e, on his return to England with the duke, was become on the sudden so violent an Antigallican as to lose all relish for, or even a most distant desire of, visiting the French coast; wherefore he insinuated to his grace to obtain from the king the command of the English forces in

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Germany, whither he would also go his second; because there they should have copious opportunity of improving themselves in military knowledge, under so consummate and great a general as prince Ferdinand was universally allowed.

The plausibility of the reason induced his majesty to favour the request; and general *Bligh*, who had been sent for from Ireland to command the reinforcement of English horse, called for at that time by prince Ferdinand, was diverted from the service, in which he could, and most certainly would, have shone (as had been proved by long and honourable experience) to another with which he was entirely unacquainted. The consequence of the subsequent exhibitions on the French shore are known to every body; and to the politic machinations of lord G-----e we are obliged. Who then can doubt his being---*a man of Abilities?*

Let us now follow this ambitious chief in Germany, on whom (after the much lamented decease of that valuable nobleman, the duke of Marlborough) devolved the command of the British forces. As far as relates to marching, counter-marching, settling the articles of forage, checking accounts, and quartering of troops, he was
very

very well, and shewed himself admirably qualified to be commissary-general to an army. He was always alert to protest against marching directly to attack the enemy in front; being from a natural inclination backward in assailing.

So much has been said and written for and against, relative to the affair at *Minden*, that but a few reflections thereupon shall be offered to the reader. Had prince Ferdinand been seized with an apoplectic fit; his aides de camp killed as they were coming towards; was the English general to stand still; the battle begun, and German ground smoking with British blood?

A keeping within the line of rules may furnish a tame excuse; but in every art, science or profession an occasional deviation from them, by the impulse of glorious feeling, hath been ever productive of the most praise-worthy and heroic achievements. The best comment here to be quoted is in Westminster-Abbey;--- where see the monument of the gallant captain *Cornwall*, and that of those brave young gentlemen *Harbord* and *Cottrel*! what was the danger of *Minden*, in comparison with their certain fate; and through choice? Why did not lord G-----c take advantage of the

supposed contradictory orders (of advancing with the British, or with all the cavalry) to march down with the *whole*, for the quicker dispatch of business, and insuring of victory? Afterward should have been the time to argue with prince Ferdinand, about the perplexity of his orders, and every ungeneral-like omission he might have been guilty of, in regard to the second in command, &c. Then, in all probability, the superseding of Prince Ferdinand must have been the consequence, and the sole command of the Allied army given to his lordship. But the guardian genius of England prevented it; because his lordship's barefaced partiality for the Scotch officers, to whom and their nation he was never under the least obligation, in preference to those of England, to which realm he owed birth, nobility and rank, and those of Ireland, where he had been educated, and his father had amassed considerable sums, to heal the sickly situation of his fortune, had caused much dissatisfaction and murmuring in the several regiments.

But this anomalous commander hath ever shewn himself a stranger to the right feelings of a man; because, otherwise, and on that ungentleman-like *billet-doux*, reflecting on him, which

was

was delivered throughout the army, he should have instantly gone to the prince, with an aide de camp, called him aside, demanded immediate satisfaction, and on the least refusal, or even hesitation, have *shot him through the head*; and thus would have done the daring and intrepid Thomas Sackville. (*see Spectator*) Such an act of resolution, the only salve then left for wounded honour, must have kept the judgment of the public in suspense, and created numerous partisans. But Ferdinand is to be supposed not so imprudent as to have issued such a billet without a previous knowledge of his man; and that from some occurrences which had already happened in the army.

O Bragge Fitzgerald, where wert thou that day,
 When recreant George did from the battle stay?
 His black ingratitude had driv'n thee far away.

This *piano* triplet would go well in recitative; and our two very accurate judges of correct writing, Dr. Lowth and Mr. Harris, must allow, that *did* here is not merely expletive, and foisted in to eke out the verse; but, on the contrary, is very *a propos* and significant.

The officers of the allied army in general, and in particular those of the English corps, were

in a state of anxious expectation for what might be the event : and none of them was more deeply concerned for the fallen chief than the good-natured and generous marquis of G-----y, not in the least ambitious of rising, through the disgrace of another, especially his countryman and of noble lineage, notwithstanding the unmannered and untimely sneer of the former at him ; when on hearing the prince's orders, he (what his slow-paced lordship should have done) was *posting* to the scene of action, and the very front of danger : " My lord, " do you think you are riding at a fox-chace ? " In the neighbourhood of a battle, it is imagined, that the sneerer will never be reproached for the like haste, except in a contrary direction.

After dismissal his lordship being actuated by the latin maxim, said within himself, *cedant arma togæ* ; down with the soldier, up with the orator :---- now let me appear to defend my cause before a court-martial : there shall I prove myself *a man of abilities*. Vain hope !

The affrontive partiality shewn by him to Scotch officers, was here displayed in a new light against the English bar, by chusing for his advocate master W-----n, forsooth, of eloquent fame, and all the way from Edinburgh.

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Some officers, during the course of the trial, made use of expressions, that must have provoked to further and serious consequences from the part of any being not so apathically kneaded as was the lord and general, then sunk into counsellor S---e against his sovereign; and who had adopted for his rule of life (but in a new sense) Horace's *integer vite*; for, at what time of his cautious existence can he be charged with even an involuntary escape of fortitude?

The chief thus brought to shame was condemned at the horse-guards, and assigned over to obscurity from all employments under the crown; in which situation, if he had cultivated any acquaintance with discretion, he would have for ever remained. But immediately after his present majesty's accession to the throne, unexpectedly appeared at court, and to the surprize of most, the long forgotten lord G----e. On which Mr. P---r, then secretary of state, observed to the other, lord B----e, how improper it was that such a noted person should be seen there; whereupon his *Butship* answered, that it should be whispered or insinuated to him to keep away: but Mr. P---r replied, with warmth, "No
 " insinuations nor whisperings are sufficient; the
 " delinquent ought to be told aloud, to de-
 " part

“part and keep aloof.” From that period, to a very late public notification, lord G-----e was quite sunk into oblivion from the public’s remembrance to the amazing æra of his resurrection in the state, through Scotch favoritism, which interval of time shall be filled with a succinct, yet satisfactory narrative of the principal transactions.

The daily growing evil of the state, lord B-----e conceived an additional resentment against Mr. P---T, for having opposed his smuggling lord G-----e to the royal presence; and these two have been all along fellow-plotters to thwart Mr. PITT’s measures, and asperse, if possible, his fame in the eyes of the nation: so through all lord B----’s conduct we have very discommendatory proofs of lord G-----e; as an object to be wished for *a man of abilities!*

The reason of so violent a friendship between the two worthies, arose from three causes, 1st, lord G-----e’s scandalous œconomy in the ordnance department. 2dly, His partiality for the North Britons. 3dly, A fellow-feeling for the cause of lord G-----e’s disaster in Germany; for be it known, the now mighty earl had, when on his continental travels, in a dispute with a foreign nobleman, most ingloriously *Mindenized*,--- vide Boswell’s

well's reports. A gentleman of that name was B---e's itinerant Mentor.

When Mr. P---t broke off from a perverse administration, the late Leviathan B---e became first lord of the treasury, had two secretaries of state moulded to his purpose,--- H---x and Egr-----. The latter, a true mastiff for prerogative, had only an opportunity of shewing his teeth and intention, when death carried him off ere he could see his arbitrary scheme completed. At the time of his decease, into such disreputation preferment had sunk, that the court was distressed to take even lord S-----h for a secretary; and then--two *Monte-guens* were entrusted with the reins of government.

The elder of the two then in office is one of those *half characters* who unaccountably (till enquired into) usurps also, in the general opinion, the title of *a man of abilities*. But that he too has been over-rated, will be manifest, from a few anecdotes.

While at the head of a certain board he acquired something of a name by negative merit; that is, by not grossly offending: yet, what superior talents, or distinguished worth, hath been
by

by him promoted? And if either the reality of semblance of any such thing hath ever happened to him, it was merely thro' a special regard to his own advantage that was thence to accrue.

On his promotion to the lieutenancy of Ireland, an æra like to that of lord Chesterfield's was expected there, to whom his ridiculous vanity would fain have himself to be compared : But what a difference ! Lord Chesterfield's conduct was open, genuine, great ; having a particular attention to provide for the natives of genius recommended to him, such as Dunkin, Brooke, &c. and to steer clear of all interested party-cabals. Every thing lord Chesterfield said, either from the throne, or in private, flowed from his own thoughts ; as every thing he did was instigated by his own sensation ; in neither guided by others.

H---x during his vice-royalty shone in borrowed colours. His terse and elegant speeches to the Irish parliament, favoured strongly of the *sublime* and *beautiful*. His affected stroke of disinterestedness not to accept of the additional sum granted by a new act (he then governing) for the support of the lord lieutenant's dignity, is truly laughable ; when one considers, that at the same time he was planning schemes how to *saddle* the nation with pen-

pensions, that are not only a disgrace to the list, but that he (it is believed) would not dare own to his majesty--- Six hundred pounds sterling *per ann.* for a stage cast-off mistress,--- and the reward of public adultery (in this article, however, she's *femme coverte*, as another name stands for hers; public shame to so infamous a proxy)---besides building her a rural hotel on the wall of a royal park, in defiance of all modesty, and to the frequent alarm of parents that pass by with virtuous daughters--- one hundred *per ann.* to a discarded actress from the Irish theatres (and rejected afterwards by Mr. Garrick) to keep company with Mrs. D-n-f-n, in public, because she was a married woman! and to whom wedded? to the lyric object of lord G---e's patronage! The husband, indeed, wrote as well as the wife acted. So here is the sacred deposit of national treasure perverted to a most ignominious use, the maintenance of fungous excrescences, and the spurious growth of another region; for if the question were started,

“To whom related, or by whom begot.”

None other answer can be had, except what closes the poet's rhyme:

“It matters not.”

It was a noble and spirited act of that gentleman, who threw up a pension rather than his name should be lifted with such. Nor is he more valuable for a superior and uncommonly cultivated genius, than a clearness of judgment and sincerity of heart.

Had his lordship of Hampton continued long in power, he would have been of great use to the stage, by disincumbering it of contemptible performers, to be fastened on Irish pensions, or sublimed from the lowest degree of *Tbalia's* sock, to a lucrative and respectable rank of horse-officer, (the claim of birth, long exceptionable service, or some distinguishing act) as is now a nephew, uncle, or brother of this favourite lady's, who like *Foote's Major Sturgeon*, was obliged, in a hurry, to learn the knack of turning out his toes.

It was for conducting himself in such a shameful manner in Sicily, and so affrontful to its inhabitants, that *Verres* drew upon him the eloquent indignation of *Cicero*. For *Verres* also had his doxy, the guide and rule of his mistaken beneficence. By Rome's great orator he is painted, *Mulierculâ nixus in littore, &c.*--but his lordship, it is said, intends marrying the dame, should her husband

husband obligingly move out of life. What a compliment to the ladies of Albion; and the well-earned ribband!

The commencement of H---x's amour with this woman, of neglected charms, if ever she had any, and discharged from every theatre, as no longer worth being employed as a singer, is very entertaining and deserves recital. . . . Having had it buzz'd in his ears, that more persons than her husband claimed the honour of a prior acquaintance to his lordship in the lady's good graces, his tender jealousy was much alarmed; wherefore he employed those in whom he could confide, to sound several of the supposed, to him preceding, paramours. The first applied to was an Italian fiddler, who had formerly known her at Marybone-Gardens, when, as warbling Miss F---k-n--r, she was the syren of that place, for the entertainment of the public. Signior Violino's reply was,

Per il dio vivente Io non l'ho . . .

The next scounded was a French dancing-master, who, shrugging his shoulders, thus evaded the question:

Foi de galant homme cela ne se demande pas--sie donc.

The third sifted was an Irish player, whose chole-
ric answer was, "Zounds, Sir, what do you take
" me for? No man but a scoundrel would boast
" of a lady's favour after he had it."

A report that none of the examined persons
had answered in the affirmative, calmed the deli-
cate uneasiness of his lordship to such a degree
of implicit confidence, that, since, were he to
see a male visitor ever so closely addressing her,
she need only, on sight of his lordship, throw the
gallant from her; then rubbing the palm of one
hand with the other, smirk it up to her cull, and
whisper him in the ear, "Be not jealous, dear
" Halli---, he is an obliging good natured gen-
" man, who hath used his utmost skill, and kind
" endeavours, to rid me of a tingling flesh-worm
" --- that's all ---"

When nobles or others keep mistresses, and
support them with their retainers, out of their
own fortunes; discharging, at the same time, their
lawful debts; no one has a right (except in regard
to scandalous example) to take notice thereof.
But when the royal treasure is debased to vile pur-
poses; that cries aloud for censure: because it ought
never to be allotted but to some claims of birth,
service, or distinguished merit.

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As for the private and immoral life of the namesake and co-equal in employment, S---h, it is too fetid and ulcerous to venture stretching one's finger towards; therefore on so hideous an object let the curtain of infamy be for ever drawn; while through succeeding ages, will be read with detestation all accounts of that ministry, when chief secretaries became vile informers, the betrayers of private friendship; and under-secretaries of the state, and solicitors of the treasury, acted the part of constables, in breaking into gentlemens houses and purloining their papers, &c.---when general warrants, a persecution of the press, and every act of violence was encouraged, that could irritate the subject and reflect dishonour on the throne.---when through their arbitrary applications such of the foreign ambassadors, Woronzow, Kniphausen, &c. were called away from our court because they had entertained a veneration for Mr. P--t, and an intercourse of friendly esteem with the young patriots of the present ministry---when a lord lieutenant of Ireland, celebrated for his magnificence, and strictly adhering to honour in that high office (these traits must point out the earl of N---th---m---b---l---d to every reader) had been disrespectfully treated through the indecent and unprecedented manner of landing his property at the custom-house,

house, by dirty and sinister orders of the too deservedly fallen *G-v-ll*e and beggarly *Monte-gueux's*; because he, virtuously obstinate, had refused to hyper-charge the Irish pension-list in behalf of some more unworthies of their recommendation; many assert, of *Jemmy Twitcher* himself! — May all such, and their foul co-operators, enjoy, unrivalled, what they have so eminently incurred, the nation's eternal abhorrence, which will be the never-failing inheritance of those that delight in villainous undertakings, and sacrilegiously trampling on the rights of a people, whether in Europe or America, to please an iniquitous favourite.

Yet, one obligation the public is under to these caitifs, and that is, the opportunity given to lord chief justice *PRATT*, of settling the boundaries of freedom in one very essential point; so that, in compliment to his new title, as the nation now stands, it may constitutionally be called, *Camden's Britannia*! —

The idea of *Camden* comes in luckily here, like an Arabian breeze to sweeten and relieve our harrassed intellects from the cadaverous stench of a pestilential administration, against whose very near mortal-influenza he tugged with such Herculean

lean labour to the wished-for revivification of liberty. ----

Of the Cumberland successors in ministerial power, but little hitherto can be said, excepting the late glorious event of *Saturday Feb. 22.*, they having been unfortunately deprived of their leader; who, perhaps, died seasonably, that he might never come to the disagreeable knowledge of what we fear but too justly, floweth from us on this melancholly occasion in blank verse:

“ The unsuspecting’s easily deceived.”

By the jokers of the outed party, that ministry was called the heterogenous junto, the unnatural mixture, the farce of grey heads and green heads, the January and May of legislation; alluding for one part of the charge to old lady Cl-rem---t, and dowager W--ch---sea.----However, of the younger part, from their known integrity, and tried honour through life, as well as true national spirit, may be asserted, that if they have done no mischief, and not passively acceded to any dirty work, it was through choice, and that their utmost happiness would have been to contribute to the public welfare; but too many stumbling-blocks were thrown in their way, and the wheels of government

ment clogged with prepared and studied difficulties, which made them chearfully declare to this purpose :

Good people of England, our truth never doubt ;

Unstain'd we rode in ; so unblam'd we'll ride out.

Down, down, to the Scotch ; derry down, &c.

To add to the brilliancy of the times, the public's admiration was unexpectedly aroused on reading in the news-papers, that the long deceased in military fame, lord George (for the introduction of whom, at all events, such indefatigable pains have long been taken by the E. of B.) was revived as one of the vice-treasurers of Ireland, and appointed a member of the privy-council. It was also whispered by the Scotch faction, that he was to command the troops for enforcing the stamp-act ; in order, forsooth, to wipe off the indellible stain of *Minden*. This explaineth lord M---tst---t, and his heading a certain division with an air of pre-conceived triumph over the *American* interest.

To the advisers of such mistaken measures, be the following remarks urged, with all mildness---
Sure some regard ought to be paid to the resentful feelings of a meritorious and loyal people ; and that it were wrong to affront a whole nation
by

by an ill-timed complaisance to *one* undeserving.---
Is no respect to be paid to our late sovereign's
memory, who, with his own hand, struck the
convicted out of that list, and thus addressed the
disconsolate father at their first interview after the
shameful day of *Minden* : " D-----t, I am glad to
" see you, for our long acquaintance sake ; but
" speak not of your son, he has disgraced us both."

Inasmuch as his behaviour in *Ireland* is no re-
commendation to his having any power in *Eng-
land* ; so his having run the gauntlet of superior
military discipline, and thereby become callous to
the public's disadvantageous opinion of him, that
check to an ingenuous mind from misdoing should
be an eternal bar, and a lesson to all the young
nobility.

It was ~~not~~ apprehended he should ever be heard
of more, unless as an Editor of Sir *John Falstaff's*
celebrated speech, accompanied with notes of his
lordship's own contriving, for which he is believed
to be very well qualified :

" What is honour ? A word. What is that
" word honour ? Air.----- Who hath it ? He that
" died on Wednesday :----- therefore I'll none
" of it" Let WOLFE and other hot-headed
G fellows

fellows of the same cast, rush upon the enjoyment of such a chimera.

Had *Minorca* not been lost, *Bynge* would not have suffered: a victory was obtained at *Minden*, therefore S---le's life was spared; for, had the day been lost, it must as surely have been forfeited as the admiral's was, and not be the cause of new and general dissatisfaction to his country. The only way that is left him now to oblige it, instead of filling our daily publications with prepared queries and replies by himself and dull dependents.--- how cunning the artifice! is to pay a visit to the Elysian shades, where he may present himself to the earl of D----t, leaning on Prior, and to Sir Edward Sackville, brandishing a sword, reeking with Scotch blood; his lordship the while conducting in one hand his Anglo-Hibernian laureat (the creature's pilfered odes, and patron's vile apologies all bundled upon its back) while he waves in the other hand the *Minden billet doux*, signed FERDINAND. The two illustrious Sackvilles, induced by such cogent vouchers, must, without doubt, and with the greatest alacrity, hail and acknowledge him-- *a man of abilities!*

With the last paragraph the conclusion of this pamphlet was intended; but new monsters arising
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in the political Horizon, and some old ones being recalled into action, drew upon ours and the people's wonder so fast, that, unable to take in and answer the enormous draughts, it almost proved bankrupt in astonishment.

Near the latitude of Bloomsbury-Square were discovered three balls, with a ducal coronet over them, and a gallows at hand, having an Irish harp on the top, near which stood, in a piteous taking, an adventuring 'squire, of the hazard-table. The weavers of Spital-Fields were assembled to enjoy the pleasing sight with the same extatic rapture as Jews gaze upon a thunder-cloud, in full hopes of a descending messiah!

All this matter of surprize was said to have been brought about by the intermediation of a wight, whose name is synonymous to *double-dealing*, though not a *Maskwell*; whom the vilest petty-foggers start from, and point after, as a disgrace to venal practice. Yet this ambi-dexter agent has had the bargained-for and abetted effrontery, with *blood running cold* at the same time, to open a prostitute mouth, not to bellow, but to bray against the dictates of truth.---O fine, O virtuous, O patriotic association, and worthy of such a cementing reconciler, long obligingly famous for stretching out a hand to both parties, *sorti paratus utrique*;---and long the

cause of a Westminster joke upon words, "that, although so far *North-on*, he cannot make his way through *YORKE*;"— which accomplished young nobleman riseth equal to his father's merit.

The dreaded consequence of so frequent revolutions in the state, is, that we shall at last become a prey to dissensions at home, and the joke of foreign courts.

To the out of door folks, who are pleased to talk of forcing the Americans, the obvious answer is, can we? Ireland, whenever refractory, the English fleet can surround; the Scotch, whenever *rebellious* (according to their assumed exclusive charter) can be driven up into a corner; but even that at no small expence, as hath been proved in the year *forty-five*, against a collection of banditti, not exceeding five thousand effectual men. Neither of these two expedients can be carried into practice against America, or her inhabitants. Consider the vast distance from England thither, consequently the long voyage. What a number of ships then requisite for any given number of forces, and to carry provisions, not only for their passage, but their maintenance after landing? Inasmuch as it is to be supposed that the people sailed against, on a very first appearance of an hostile armament, would

would drive and move every article of provisions, &c. from the shore far up into the country, and places inaccessible. Be it also remembered, what a numerous militia they have: some say, they can turn out, on occasion, such as *pro aris & focis*, ninety thousand men, all armed! Is it not to be feared, that our soldiers would act but lukewarmly against their countrymen and relations? Might not many be seduced to go over on a proffer of liberty and a landed possession? Should we not, by thus exasperating, provoke them to think of establishing manufactories, and consequently starve those of England; an effect much to be dreaded. Is it to be supposed that the chief princes of the house of *Bourbon* would be idle spectators, and not lend private assistance, at least, if not openly declare, on such a tempting incident for them.----- Who principally encouraged the grand rebellion, that brought an unhappy monarch to a scaffold? French politics, directed by cardinal Richelieu.

Why should what now is, and hath been long practised in France and elsewhere become suddenly offensive in England, to the boasted ears of freedom, and supposed abhorrrers of all oppressive measures. The assembled states of Languedoc, with the king's lieutenant, the provincial governor at
their

their head, *tax themselves*, according to the exigency of the times and their computed faculties :--- yet, would absolutely refuse any *tax* from either king or ministry; nor would they look upon themselves in consequence, or be deemed, even at the French court, the less good subjects; because they live up to their original compact, in whatever form conceived, and long established usages. Why cause alarming innovations when things can be done easily in the old way?

Such founded states or assemblies of power can never be impleaded for rebellion; till they peremptorily refuse granting any taxes in their usual way, without shewing sufficient or even any shadow of reason for such refusal; then the supreme authority under which they derive, can have recourse to enforcing, and not before: because such a coercive expedient would be liable to the charge of oppression. Nor can any equitable alteration be made in the administration of such states and provinces, but by the mutual consent of the two parties, the delegators and receivers of power entering into and signing a new compact; at each and every of which a then-judged equivalent is supposed to have been given; and which to explain in all its variety of cases, would take up too much room here. Nay
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the clergy of France, a corps so devoted to monarchy, assemble every year, to *tax themselves*, and in the manner seeming most practicable to them. The Americans, instead of being glad to see, must dread the arrival of every ship from England (the senate assembled) lest charged with some new *tax*, they unconsulted; by which means their property would be most uncertain.

It is amazing that the Scotch, whose ineffectual politics are now defeated in America, should be the most clamorous against her natives, as *rebels*! And the reason why, cannot be readily assigned, unless thro' jealousy of trade, that they would fain monopolize to themselves, and by which, indeed, they have hitherto thriven pretty well, as witness their place-occupants at present, while the loyalists of England and Ireland are, for the most part, neglected. The uninformed how things are now managed, would be almost induced to think that we were rather under the reign of a *Stuart*, than a *Brunswic*:---the service of which most excellent and valuable monarch is not more dishonoured by the delinquents among his flying escorte, the light horse, than by the more weighty plunderers of the public in higher departments; and as the minor sinners (because such) are sure to be treated according

according to their demerits (yet one plea can be urged in alleviation of their guilt, that the corps being of Scotch institution, it only kept up the known Caledonian spirit in regard to England) so may the great and titled ones be brought to condign punishment, and the glorious ceremony be inaugurated, by tearing away the noxious northern bramble from off the royal oak, around whose sacred trunk it so wantonly and contumaciously twines, to the totally eclipsing the majesty thereof from being seen in a proper view; at the same time torpifying it from all genuine and imperial energy.

—Whatever patriot shall be able to effect these long wished-for ends, will be gratefully proclaimed throughout our loyal realms in Europe, the Islands, and America's extensive empire,

THE MAN OF ABILITIES.



Page 35, line 5. for *Thomas*, read *Sir Edward*. Line 6, for *Spectator*, read *Guardian*.

